

# PROPERTY REPORT

Property ID: -1245315290

**Property Name:** Henry Perrine House **Ownership:** Private  
**Address:** 47 S MAIN ST **Apartment #:** **ZIP:** 08512

**PROPERTY LOCATION(S):**

County:	Municipality:	Local Place Name:	USGS Quad:	Block:	Lot:
MIDDLESEX	Cranbury township			18	5

**Property Photo:**



**Old HSI Number:** **NRIS Number:** **HABS/HAER Number:** 71

**Description:**

PS&S recommends that 47 S. Main Street, constructed circa 1796 and extensively renovated circa 2015, is a contributing property in the Cranbury Historic District.

The 2-story, side gable-roofed, rectangular-plan main block of this clapboard-clad, frame residence on a concrete foundation is 5 bays wide and 2 bays deep and is fronted by the elevation by a 1-story, gable-roofed, 1-bay centered entry porch and backed on the southeast by a 2-story, gable-roofed, full-width, 5 bay-deep, altered secondary volume. The rear volume matches the height of the main volume in the northwest bay and projects higher in the 4 southeast bays, with a gabled wall-dormer in the southeasternmost bay. A 1-story, hip-roofed, side porch projects from the northwest bay of the southwest side of the rear volume and extends beyond the southwest elevation of the main block. The remaining bays of the southwest elevation of the rear volume are flanked by a 1-story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch. The roofs are predominantly clad in asphalt shingle except for the porches, which are clad in standing-seam metal. The windows throughout have replacement frames and 1/1 replacement sash. The front porch includes Tuscan columns and a historic segmental arch under the gable that matches the fanlight over the door. An interior, brick, ridge chimney is located near the southwest elevation of the main volume. The historic door surround includes single-light sidelights over recessed panels and a segmental arch, leaded-glass fanlight. The remaining bays are regularly fenestrated on both floors. The southwest, side elevation is regularly fenestrated in both the main and rear volumes. A secondary entrance is accessed by the projecting side porch, with includes replacement columns and an added dentilled

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**Principal Investigator:** Emily Cooperman

(Primary Contact)

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**Organization:** Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

cornice. The enclosed porch, accessed by a door in the central bay, is articulated by columns and lighted by large, single-light windows over recessed panels. The northeast, side and southeast, rear elevations are not visible from the public right-of-way.

Historic maps indicate that South Main Street includes some of the earliest development in Cranbury. The settlement began in 1736 with the construction of a mill on the south banks of the Cranbury Brook and, by 1810, developed into a small village. The 1980 National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District indicates that the 2-story, 5-bay dwelling at 47 S. Main Street, known as the Henry Perrine House, was originally constructed circa 1796, with a door surround added or replaced circa 1835 and a porch added in the 20th century. A historical plaque on the building asserts that the residence was built in 1797. The earliest visual record of a residence on the lot may be the 1850 Otley and Keiley Map, when 3 residences were recorded on the east side of Main Street between Station Road and Cranbury Neck Road. Historic maps from 1876 record that by that time a residence on the lot was owned by "Mrs. Gordon." The residence is documented on the 1933 Sanborn Map as a T-plan, frame dwelling with a single-bay front porch, a 1-story side porch, and a 1-story rear porch. A 2-story fish hatchery is located to the northeast of the residence and a 2-story garage is located to the southeast. The 1989 Heritage Studies inventory dates the porch and door surround to sometime between 1890 and 1920 and documents that the residence was clad in aluminum siding and had replacement 1/1 window sash at the date of that survey. A historic photograph taken circa 1910 (Brennan and Brennan 1995: 63) depicts the residence with a full-width, awning-covered front porch supported by wide, paneled posts with large decorative cut-outs. Unlike the current fenestration, the photograph depicts the residence with only a single window on each floor of the southwest elevation. Images from the 1974 photographic inventory of Cranbury historic buildings in the collection of the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society indicate that the residence has undergone multiple changes in the fenestration, with a bank of 4 windows in the northeast bay of the southeast elevation. Historic aerial photographs indicate that a substantial, 2-story, gable-roofed volume was constructed in place of or in addition to the historic rear volume between 2013 and 2016. The historic garage was replaced during this construction campaign with a larger 2-story, gable-roofed garage and the historic fish hatchery was demolished. Visual evidence suggests that the windows and shutters throughout have been replaced within the last ten years and that the dentilled cornice was recently added.

47 S. Main Street is a contributing property to the Cranbury Historic District because it retains character-defining historic features such as the historic replacement door surround and historic chimney. However, the scale of volumes added in recent construction campaigns, the altered fenestration patterns, and the near-total replacement of windows and surface materials make this status extremely marginal.

**Setting:**

South Main Street stretches from Brainerd Lake to the southern edge of Cranbury and is characterized by freestanding single-family residences of moderate scale ranging in date from the early 19th century to the early 20th century.

**Registration and Status**

**National Historic Landmark?:**

**National Register:** 9/18/1980

**SHPO Opinion:**

**Dates:**

**New Jersey Register:** 8/9/1979

**Local Designation:** 9/26/1988

**Determination of Eligibility:** 3/25/1977

**Other Designation:**

**Certification of Eligibility:**

**Other Designation Date:**

**Eligibility Worksheet included in present survey?**

**Is this Property an identifiable farm or former farm?**

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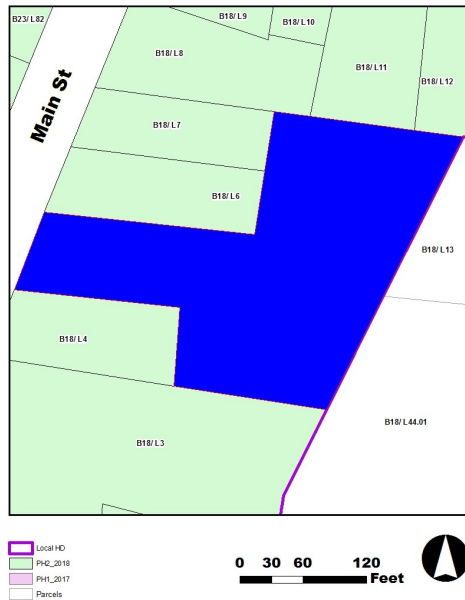
**Principal Investigator:** Emily Cooperman

(Primary Contact)

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**Organization:** Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor

**Location Map:**



**Site Map:**



**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Author:	Title:	Year:	HPO Accession #:	(if applicable)
Heritage Studies	Preserving Cranbury Township	1989		
(None Listed)	1876 Everts and Stewart Map	1876		
(None Listed)	1933 Sanborn Map	1933		
Chambers, John Whiteclay II	Cranbury: A New Jersey Town from the Colonial Era to the Present	2012		
(None Listed)	Aerial and street view photography for 1931, 1940, 1947, 1953, 1957, 1963, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1979, 1987, 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2015 available at <a href="http://historicaerials.com">historicaerials.com</a> and for 1995, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016, and 2017 available through Google Earth			
(None Listed)	1916 Sanborn Map	1916		
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury, Volume II	1998		
(None Listed)	1850 Otley and Keily Map	1850		
Brennan, Peggy and Frank J. Jr.	Images of America: Cranbury	1995		
Walsh, Ruth	National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Cranbury Historic District, Cranbury Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey	1979		

**Additional Information:**

1202\_18\_5 / 2-STY - SFD / 1797

**More Research Needed?**  (checked=Yes)

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**INTENSIVE-LEVEL USE ONLY:**

**Attachments Included:**            0 Building                            0 Bridge  
   0 Structure                            0 Landscape  
   0 Object                                0 Industry

**Historic District ?**   

**District Name:** Cranbury Historic District

**Status:** Contributing

**Associated Archeological Site/Deposits?**   

(known or potential sites. If Yes, please describe briefly)

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Conversion Problem?                ConversionNote:

*Date form completed:*            8/24/2018

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